

DEC 28 2005

## TO THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

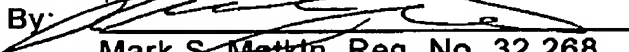
Patent Application Serial No. .... 10/643,680  
Filing Date ..... August 18, 2003  
Inventor ..... Brenda D. Kraus et al.  
Assignee ..... Micron Technology, Inc.  
Group Art Unit ..... 1762  
Examiner ..... Unknown  
Attorney Docket No. .... M122-2310  
Customer No. .... 021567  
Title: Atomic Layer Deposition Methods of Forming Conductive Metal Nitride  
Comprising Layers

TO: Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS INQUIRY

1. More than twenty-eight (28) months have passed since the filing of the above-identified patent application. No communication from an examiner has been received from the Patent and Trademark Office since that date.
2. Kindly advise the undersigned of the present status of this patent application, in particular, when the undersigned might reasonably expect to receive a first office action or allowance. A Status Inquiry Reply is provided as the second page hereof. Please complete and then fax said second page/reply to the facsimile number indicated thereon.

Dated: 12-27-05  
Telephone No.: (509) 624-4276  
Fax No.: (509) 838-3424  
Customer No.: 021567

By:   
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## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

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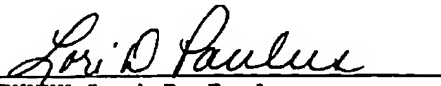
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## FACSIMILE

- ☒ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office at:

(571) 273-8300 ( 2 pages)

Date: 12/28/05

By:   
Lori D. Paulus

M1222310W01.doc

(Status Inquiry--page 1 of 2)

**STATUS INQUIRY REPLY**

**RE: PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/643,680:**

- ☐ FIRST EXAMINATION OR ALLOWANCE IS EXPECTED TO BE  
READY BY \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)
- ☐ IS AWAITING \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE FAX THIS REPLY TO:

Mark S. Matkin  
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FACSIMILE NO. (509) 838-3424